

BARRILLA

THE CENTRAL BANK MONEY MUSEUM QUARTERLY

VOL. III

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In commemoration of the Fall of Bataan (April 9, 1942), our cover features the map of the province, the site of a bloody and decisive battle during the early stage of WW II. At lower left is the Bataan Commemorative coin.

April 1976

This month the nation again observes Bataan Day, and this issue's cover story is devoted to the first phase of that heroic, blood-drenched saga. Although a whole generation has passed, many are alive today who took an active part in that campaign, as well as many others who lived through those times and watched with horrified fascination as the tragedy ground on to its inexorable conclusion.

A new postwar generation however must perforce learn of these historical events from writings and oral teaching. To help instruct them, and to pay tribute to those who staked their lives for their country and in many cases lost them, veteran journalist Mariano N. Querol tells "the story behind the coin" – the coin being in this instance the beautiful Bataan Commemorative of 1967.

And he tells it from a Filipino point of view – identifying the provinces from which our blue-denim clad boys came, the Filipino units that participated, and some of the Filipino generals, in particular the late Vicente Lim, who might aptly be dubbed the Stonewall Jackson of Bataan. (Later in the war, he was to be executed by the Japanese when he tried to run their blockade in an attempt to reorganize resistance and join the forces of liberation.)

What is commemorated by the coin is the sacrifice of a bi-national but predominantly Filipino army of green and untested troops, who fought a well-trained and experienced enemy to a standstill for much longer than anyone had a right to expect, while other armies in neighboring countries were going down to quick defeat. This army was drawn from all walks of life, from simple farmer boys to the scions of prominent families. When they faced capture and death together, it could probably be said that national unity among all regions and all classes was never stronger.

BATAAN: THE FIRST ROUND

by
Mariano N. Querol

(This is a part of a larger work intended to be a popular history of the Bataan campaign. Most accounts of the Bataan drama, particularly foreign, gloss over the participation of the Filipino soldier. The Filipino teenagers who fought on Bataan deserve a fitting memorial to their courage and sacrifice.)

Layac, gateway to Bataan, had fallen after a hard battle. The road to the peninsula now lay open. The Bataan drama was about to begin.

At his headquarters in Cabanatuan, the Japanese commander-in-chief, Masaharu Homma, moved quickly to follow through. He could see no reason why Bataan couldn't be swiftly taken. The Fil-American air arm - 300 fighters and bombers - had been demolished on the ground. His own air arm controlled the air, giving him a decisive advantage. His Japanese Fourteenth Army could use blitzkrieg tactics and prime up for a knock-out, no question about. As long as he crowded out the enemy, giving him no chance to get set and strike back, the rest would be easy.

Forthwith he gave the order: This was a pursuit problem. Get on with it.

The Japanese 65th Brigade - four infantry regiments reinforced by one tank regiment, two heavy artillery regiments, three light artillery battalions, one air group of 70 planes, large complements of engineer and other supporting troops - moved into position. In command was a lieutenant general, Akira Nara. At his headquarters in the Hermosa area, Nara went over a battle map and reviewed his problem.

Bataan stuck out southward like a thumb, its eastern shore on Manila Bay, its western on the South China Sea. Cavite jutted out toward Bataan on the opposite shore to form the mouth of the bay. In the middle of the mouth lay Corregidor. On the thumb rose two dead volcanoes, one linked to the other by a saddle of land. One stood in the north with two peaks - Natib and Silaňiganan - towering



up to 4,200 feet. The other, Mount Bataan, rose up 4,700 feet to dominate the southern landscape and the Mariveles range. The thumb was flat and swampy at the base, rugged and hilly on the saddle, a long strip of narrow plains at the edges.

A curling ribbon of road hugged the coastline. It began at Dinalupihan in the northeast and stretched southward, going through Hermosa, Mabatang, Abucay, Balanga, Pilar, Orion, Limay, Lamao and Cabcaben on the eastern shore. From Cabcaben, it snaked westward to Mariveles, then zigzagged northward from Bagac to Mauban, Bayandati and Morong in the west. From Bagac, another road cut eastward to Pilar across the waist of Bataan, providing lateral communication between the two sides of the peninsula.

The Fil-American commander-in-chief, Douglas MacArthur, like Homma a lieutenant general, had dug his line of battle from Mabatang on the bayside westward to Mauban. It was not a continuous line - - in the middle stood the twin-peaked mountain. The hump split the line in two fronts. The eastern front - - from Mabatang westward to Natib - - would be

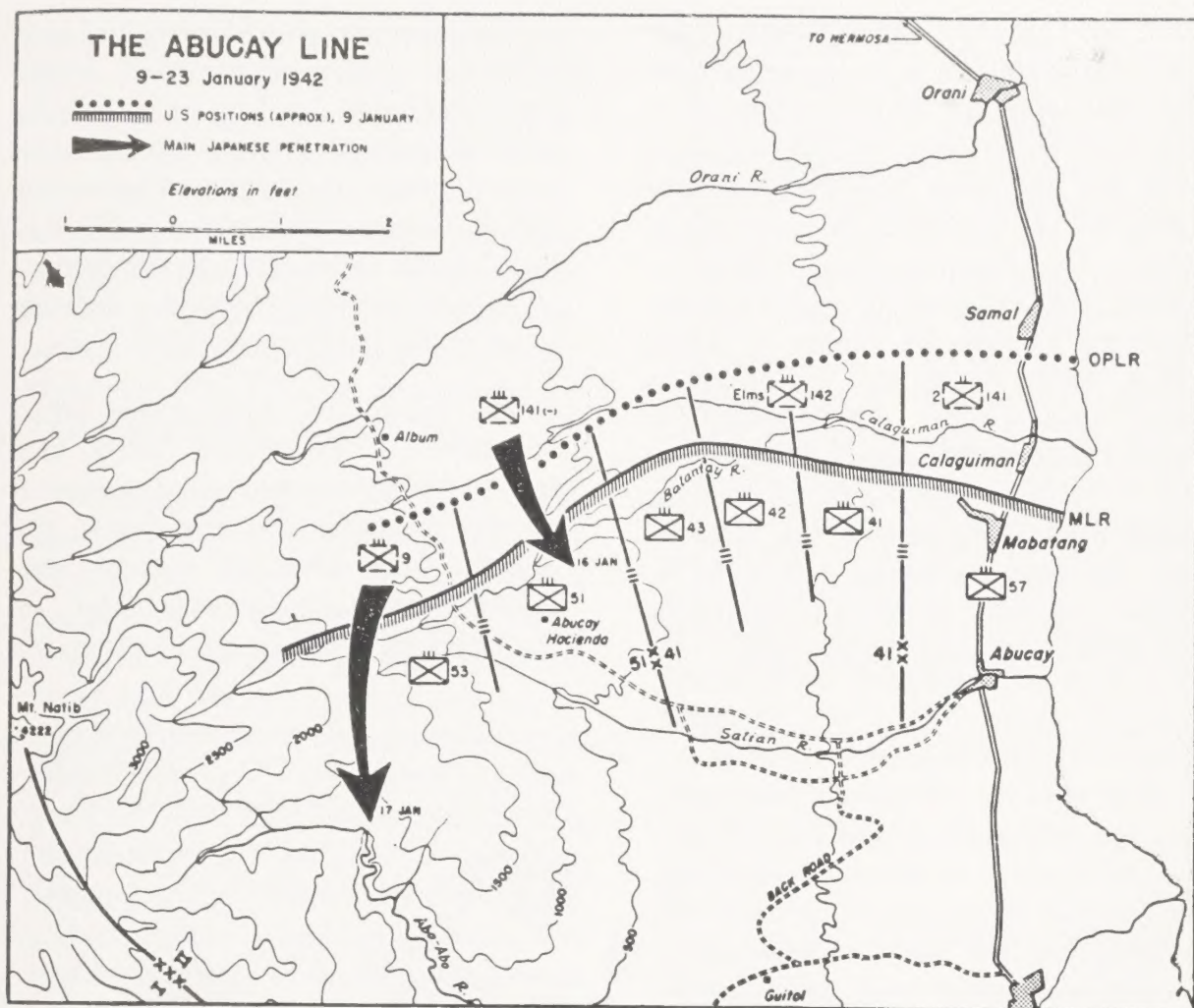
known as the Abucay line. The western from Mauban eastward to Silanganan would be referred to as the Mauban line. The eastern front was MacArthur's right flank, the western his left. Not counting the base of the mountain, the two fronts ran for 15 miles.

MacArthur thought the Japanese would be crazy to break through the unmapped ravines and pure jungle of the two peaks - - the job would be extremely difficult for infantry, let alone artillery and armor. But this, a source of strength, was also a source of weakness. Though the two peaks could not be penetrated, they made mutual support between the two flanks impossible.

The Abucay line was manned by the II Philippine Corps, consisting of four divisions - - the Philippine 11th, 21st, 41st and 51st - - plus the 57th Infantry, Philippine Scouts, altogether 25,000 men. In command was an American major general, George Parker.

The Mauban line was held by the I Philippine Corps, consisting of three divisions - - the Philippine 1st, 31st and 91st - - plus combat elements of the Philippine 71st and what remained of the 26th Cavalry, Philippine Scouts, altogether 22,500 men. In command was the most senior of MacArthur's major generals, Jonathan Wainwright.

Below the waist of Bataan, a stretch covering more than 100 square miles, MacArthur established the Service Command Area under an American brigadier, Allan McBride. For this job, McBride had only the equivalent of two divisions - - two infantry regiments of the Philippine 2nd under a Filipino major general, Guillermo B. Francisco, and an assortment of army, navy and air force troops.



It was perhaps the most beautiful battlefield in the world, breathtaking in its wildness. Bataan then was not what it is today. Sugarcane and rice paddy extended on flat land for miles around, disappearing in wide stretches of forest which climbed up the slopes of the mountain. Radiating from the volcanic mass of Natib and Silaňanan were streams which over the centuries had cut gullies on the face of the mountain and become a network of rivers in the forest below. Game abounded - - deer, monkeys, wild boar, wild fowl. The forest floor was so overgrown with jungle that one could not see more than 15 yards away.

A ripple of heavy activity had gone through the Fil-American line. The

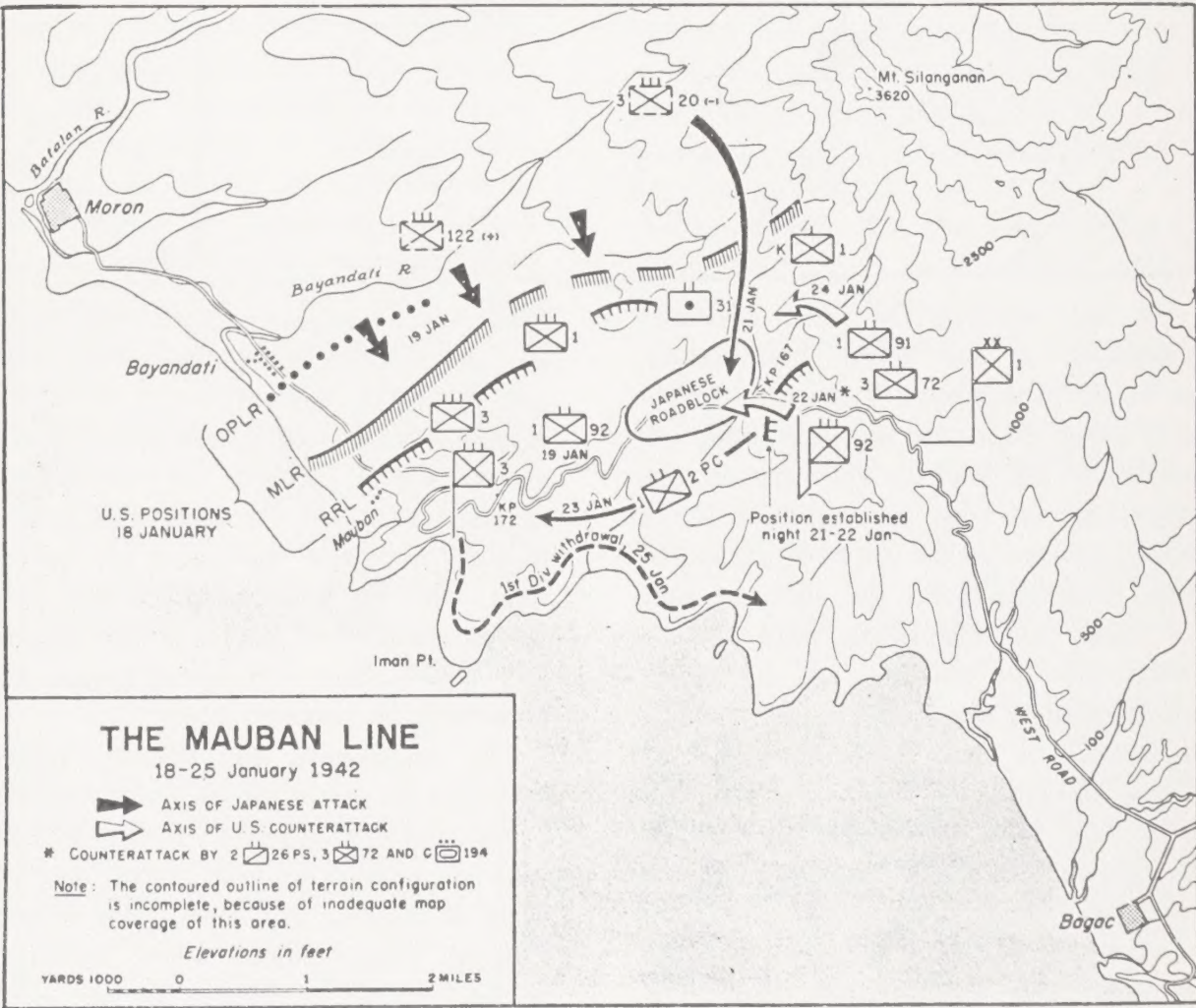
result was a complex of tank traps, artillery and machinegun emplacements, rifle pits, foxholes, entrenchments protected in critical places with double-apron fences of barbed wire. Fields of fire were cleared in jungle positions. For lack of picks and shovels, bayonets and mess kit covers were used to build fortifications. The troops fortified as much of the line as they could. They were racing against the imminence of Japanese attack.

The assessment was correct. Akira Nara had his heart set on quick victory. Complying with Homma's orders, he had split his brigade in four forces, one of them in reserve. One force, built around Colonel Takeo Imai's 141st Infantry, would form his left wing in the east. Ano-

ther, built around Colonel Susumu Takechi's battlewise 9th Infantry, would form his right wing, try for a breakthrough in the Natib sector, then fan out to link up with the Imai force. Takechi's maneuver being the key operation, he placed his reserve - - the Japanese 142nd Infantry - - behind Takechi, ready to exploit a breakthrough. Though the weight of Nara's attack would be on the Abucay line, a third Japanese force - - built around Colonel Yunosuke Watanabe's 122nd Infantry - - would drive down to Morong, break through the Mauban line, take Bagac and seize the lateral road. Once reduced to pockets, the Fil-American battle line would be destroyed piecemeal.

Nara was in position by the early afternoon of January 9, 1942 - - three days after Layac. At 3 p. m. he gave the order to jump off. Through his binoculars he saw masses of booted and brown-helmeted Japanese khaki march off to assigned battle zones. Then he felt the base of Bataan trembling under his feet. His heavy artillery had opened up.

The Imai force came under attack at once - - Fil-American heavy artillery, well-hidden in thick jungle, zeroed in on this formation and scattered it, The Takechi force advanced without resistance and eventually discovered why - - in the labyrinth of the jungle, it was march-



ing in the wrong direction. Imai regrouped at the first opportunity, splitting his force in two columns. One spread out before the Fil-American right, held by the 57th Infantry, Philippine Scouts, under an American colonel, George Clarke. The other, swinging westward across rugged ground, prepared to hit the Fil-American center. This crucial area was held by the Philippine 41st Division, commanded by a Filipino brigadier, Vicente Lim.

A sugarcane field, 150 yards wide, separated the Japanese from Clarke's outpost line. This - - on the night of January 11 - - became a critical point. A bright moon shone on this narrow no-man's land. Suddenly a roar went up as the Japanese laid a rolling artillery barrage, following up with heavy machine-gun fire. Then they pushed quickly in a banzai charge. "Wave after of screaming Japanese troops hurled themselves on the barbed wire entanglements, forming human bridges over which succeeding waves could pass." They pressed on, finally tearing a large hole in the American-officered Filipino line. But they fought for nothing. The Filipinos counterattacked in the morning and reoccupied their previous positions. When the fight ended, up to 300 Japanese, including the column commander, lay dead.

Imai's other column, also attacking in moonlight, hit the Fil-American center with no better luck. Lim, a martinet at once feared and loved by his men, proved immovable. His Philippine 41st - - boys from Cavite and Rizal - - braced up in a line of blue demin fatigues camouflaged in rolling jungle. It took the fist of the attack and threw it back.

Takechi, the keymen in the maneuver, never got a piece of the action. He got

swallowed up by the jungle. Some of his companies got to within two miles of the Philippine 51st Division, holding the Fil-American left at the base of Natib. Others marched away from the front by mistake.

Nara was white with rage. This was totally unexpected. He found excuses for the reverse - - the men weren't experienced enough, they weren't combat-ready, and so on and so forth. But he soon identified his real difficulties. One was poor maps. Another was poor communication - - he couldn't maintain radio contact with his forces. Finally there was the matter of courage - - the Fil-American troops were determined to make a big fight of it.

At his headquarters on Corrigidor, MacArthur's eyes lit up. His faith in the Filipino as a fighting man had been reaffirmed. Though in uniform for only six months, in many cases even less, and using obsolete World War I weapons - - Enfield rifles, water-cooled Browning machineguns, French 75-millimeter guns - - the Filipino had stood up to a brave, superbly-trained and modern-equipped enemy, honed to a fine cutting edge in the battle-fields of China. Valor could never be a problem on Bataan. The problem was supply.

Ammunition was adequate, but supplies were short on all other items. Rice stocks could last only 20 days, flour and canned vegetables 30 days, canned meat and fish 50 days, canned milk 40 days. Medicines, particularly quinine, were in critical supply. With this pitifully small stockpile, Bataan and Corregidor had to be maintained until expected reinforcements came in 180 days. The refugee factor - - 26,000 civilians had joined

the retreat to Bataan and had to be fed - - compounded the problem.

MacArthur had to make a painful decision. "Put the troops on half-rations," he ordered. Half-rations meant 2,000 calories - - "half the normal requirements of an active man."

The Japanese reputation as a fighting people put Masaharu Homma in a psychological squeeze. Tokyo had given him just 50 days to complete his Philippine conquest. In less than a week a Japanese army had taken Hongkong. Another Japanese army was about to duplicate the feat in Singapore. A Japanese push toward Indonesia had begun, and the news all over Southeast Asia told of lightning Japanese victories. Homma was called upon to take Bataan quickly.

All right, he told Nara. Get on with it.

Nara switched his dispositions. He ordered Imai to continue swinging westward so as to become his right wing. This was necessary because Takechi, who was holding his right, obviously had got lost and was unheard from. He pulled the Japanese 142nd Infantry out of reserve and ordered it out to the Fil-American right, replacing Imai as his left. He posted a new reserve behind Imai, whose job was now to wear down the Fil-American left and center, Takechi's job remained the same - - to break through the Fil-American left and roll up the Abucay line from the rear.

A few hours later jump-of - - January 12, 1942 - - Japanese pressure was tightening all over the Abucay outpost line. One column had crossed the river Calamigan, poised for another smash at the Fil-American fight. Another was pushing due west toward the Fil-Ameri-

can left and center. Nara's air arm, flying in shifts of three planes each, was diving into the trees, bombing and strafing. His artillery was lobbing shells without letup. The entire Abucay front was alive with gunfire.

George Clarke's 57th Infantry coolly took the attack on the Fil-American right. By late afternoon it was hard-pressed. Peering through binoculars at his forward command post, Clarke saw the Japanese driving into his left flank and bending it back. He got Parker on the telephone.

"I'm getting breached, General. I've got to counterattack. I can't do it without reinforcements."

"Hold on, George. I'll give you the 21st Infantry. My reserve. All two battalions of it."

At the Fil-American center, the Imai force, fighting behind artillery and aircraft, swung at Lim's Philippine 41st. Pressure built up quickly after bombardment had softened the Filipino line. Responding to Lim's call for reinforcements, a battalion of the 23rd Infantry moved out of reserve. It was caught by a covey of dive bombers as it marched in exposed jungle to the battle line - - 70 were counted killed or wounded. But the rest of the battalion made it to the front. The Fil-American center held.

The push on the Fil-American left - - a line of foxhole and machinegun emplacements running westward to the Natib jungles - - was red-hot. Though shooting briskly behind the fire of its own artillery, the Filipino line broke. The American brigadier in command of the sector, Albert Jones, counterattacked. His Philippine 51st - - boys from Laguna, Batangas, Tayabas and the Camarines - -

jumped off into heavy Japanese fire. The counterstrike got pinned down after some lost ground had been recovered - - the hole in the Fil-American left could not be plugged.

Fleshed out by the 21st Infantry, Clarke hit back at the Fil-American right the following morning, opening up with an artillery barrage. The Japanese were limbering up for a strike of their own, but Clarke beat them to the punch. The 21st - - boys from Pampanga and Tarlac - - attacked with aggressiveness they had never shown before. Leap-frogging in the bush, they poured rifle and machinegun fire into the salient, driving the Japanese back. Three hours after jump-off, Clark got his line straightened out.

Petering out at the Fil-American right, Japanese fire gathered force - - on January 14 - - at the point where Lim's Philippine 41st linked up with Jones' Philippine 51st. Lim had an outpost line at the far bank of the river Balantay, which ran in front of the Fil-American left and center. Though hindered by the rapid fire of Lim's artillery, Imai slammed hard. The outposts reeled back across the river. A gap now showed between the two divisions. Jones rectified the line by pulling back from his main battle positions behind the Balantay. His withdrawal had the effect of erasing the hole the Japanese had punched into his front the previous day. His new line was unfortified and weak in many places, but it could be held.

He got no chance to rest. At the point where he joined hands with Lim in the Natib foothills, Imai concentrated strong air- and artillery-supported formations. Into this vital spot the Japanese

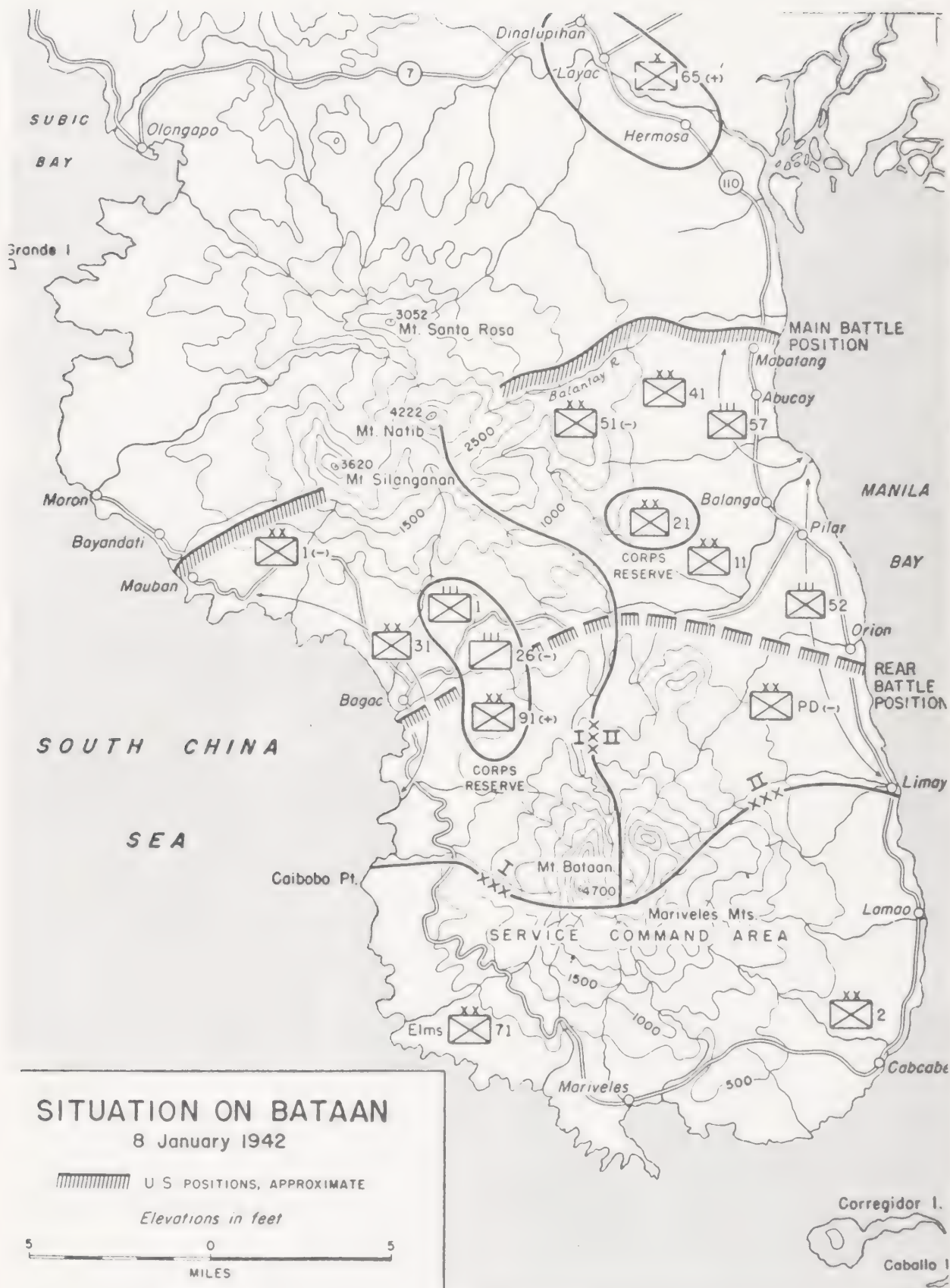


Gen. Vicente Lim

commander threw everything he had. But it simply was not his day. Lim splintered the attack. Jones called out his cooks and stayed put.

Frustrated by Lim, Imai decided to break Jones. The concentration of his attack shifted westward. His artillery alternated with his aircraft in beating a tattoo on the Fil-American left. Invisible in the dappled jungle, his infantry pushed forward briskly in small rifle and machine gun parties which covered broad sections of front all at once, creating the impression of large numbers. Fire-crackers which exploded like the .28 Arisaka rifle, planted by infiltrators in sections of front not under attack, heightened the deception. But Jones would not break. Under the heavy rain of fire, the Philippine 51st stood firm.

A greater danger soon turned up. A Japanese buildup was discovered about



a thousand yards to the west, perpendicular to the front of the Philippine 51st. This was the Takechi force, which had found its bearing at last. Wearing by its long march across trackless jungle, it was taking a breather. But soon it should be reorganizing for attack. It had to be stopped before it could break through Jones and take the Abucay line from the rear.

Jones took stock fast, but had been fighting with heavy losses for four days now and were getting spent. They couldn't possibly hold out much longer.

He got Parker on the telephone. "I have to have fresh troops. That's the only way. Without reinforcements, I can't hold my front."

"I have nothing to give you, Honus. I have committed my own reserves. But hold on. Give me a chance to talk to higher headquarters."

The request was quickly granted. For days now, MacArthur's staff had worried about the two interior flanks at the base of the mountain. Homma, MacArthur was told, should be expected to do the unexpected. The logical points of Japanese penetration were Bataan's two principal roads along the coastline. Ergo, Homma should be expected to try and achieve tactical surprise by putting his main effort on the forested front at the center of the peninsula. MacArthur took the advice. Just in time too. After his drive on the Fil-American right had collapsed, Nara had shifted the weight of his attack on the Fil-American left, certain that Natib was the "pivot point of the entire enemy position."

Parker got a good deal more than he had hoped for. MacArthur's own reserve, the elite Philippine Division - - two infantry regiments of American regu-

lars plus supporting arms - - was released to him. So was the Philippine 31st Division, which was pulled out of Wainwright and ordered out to the Abucay line. MacArthur's action proved heady for Parker, who got obsessed with the idea of immediate counterattack. Though his two extra divisions were still on the way to the front, he decided that now was the time to give the Japanese a dose of their own medicine. He would beat them to the punch.

He got Jones on the telephone.

"Here's your chance to regain lost ground and reoccupy positions in your previous main line of resistance. Tomorrow morning is a good time to counterattack."

Jones would not believe it. As commander of South Luzon Force during the retreat to Bataan, he built up his reputation as a frontline general, but he knew when to attack and when to stay put. "My troops are very tired and my losses very heavy. My line right now is not a good place to launch a counterattack - - it's tactically unsound. This is the reason why I asked you for fresh troops in the first place. I'm hardly in shape to hold my front."

Parker insisted. "You'll be there with fresh muscle. I'll give you the 3rd Battalion, 21st Infantry."

Reluctantly Jones told his staff to work out plans for a counterstrike.

At his headquarters, Homma had no idea that this was happening. Stubborn Fil-American resistance had convinced him that Nara was getting nowhere at the Abucay line, and indeed Nara's reports were that it was hard going all the way, with the Fil-American artillery blasting off "without a minute's respite." Anxiously Homma waited for

news from the other side of the mountain.

A Japanese buildup had materialized at Morong, the seacoast town above Mauban. This was the Watanabe force. It had come from Olongapo, crossing Subic Bay in a flotilla of bancas, dug-out canoes. Its job was to break through the Mauban line, then join the Imai and Takechi forces for the mop-up. Now - - on January 14, the day Imai threw his big punch at Abucay - - it was looking at the lay of the land.

The Mauban line ran through five miles of thick forest. It was held by the Philippine 1st Division, commanded by a Filipino brigadier, Fidel Segundo, and an infantry regiment detached from the Philippine 31st Division. A string of artillery battalions and formations of armor stiffened the line. About a mile above this main battle position, from Bayandati to the slopes of Silaňanan, was a string of outposts. Watanabe would have to break through this outpost line before he could slam into the front.

The commander of the Mauban line, Jonathan Wainwright, thought he should contain Watanabe at Morong. Forthwith a large force - - an infantry regiment and a 26th Cavalry troop, with two artillery battalions and an engineer battalion in support - - blocked the Japanese at the river Batalan, which hugged the northern edge of the town. In command was an American major, McCullum. The Fil-American artillery opened the battle. Though Watanabe replied with heavy artillery and machinegun fire, Fil-American flank attacks forced him back across the river. The attacks were expensive. The Filipino line was decimated, and the cavalry, which had done a good job of

harassment and shock action, had to be withdrawn from the fight. As Fil-American fire slackened, Watanabe counter-attacked. The momentum of his push carried his troops beyond Morong - - which he took on January 17 - - and drove the Filipinos to a ridge about a mile south of it. Here, determined to control the main road to Mauban, the Filipinos dug in.

The Japanese were victorious at last. Homma's estimate of the situation - - that Bataan could be rolled up much more quickly from Mauban - - seemed to have been confirmed. Four days earlier - - on January 13 - - he had organized Headquarters 16th Infantry Group, built around Watanabe's 122nd Infantry and the Japanese 20th Infantry, with supporting artillery and anti-tank forces, altogether 5,000 men. He had put this force under a major general, Naoki Kimura, with orders to launch an offensive at once. He told Kimura, "You are directly under me."

Akira Nara thus lost sole command on Bataan.

On the other side of the mountain, the fighting was reaching a crucial stage. A reluctant Albert Jones was at a forward command post in the Fil-American left. His promised reserve - - 3rd Battalion, 21st Infantry - - was not yet in position. But in this grey dawn - - January 16, 1942 - - his Philippine 51st had formed for the counterstrike, two infantry regiments abreast. An artillery battalion began throwing shells in the dark. Jones knew it was his artillery - - eight French 75-millimeter guns. It was the wrong hardware for this battle. What he needed was mortars - - high-angle cannon which could lob shells to the far side of the hilly

ground where the Japanese were.

As the barrage lifted, the two regiments jumped off, pivoting at the point where they linked up with the Philippine 41st. The counterattack apparently had been foreseen. Japanese retaliation was immediate and full of fight. Takeo Imai had no intentions of being dislodged from hard-won positions in the Natib foothills.

The Filipinos were red-hot. Out of their exhausted bodies they were squeezing reserves of strength which they never knew were there. In the face of heavy Japanese fire, they established control of the bush - - they could not be pinned down. The 51st Infantry - - center of the attacking line - - was particularly resolute: it sliced quickly through the Japanese defense.

What happened next was unclear - - there are many gaps in the story - - but it must certainly have resulted from the thickness of the jungle and the evident failure of Jones' communication net. The Natib foothills were carpeted with matted jungle so dense it was impossible for the advancing regiments to lock into one another. Even company commanders lost sight of their platoons and had trouble coordinating their movements. As it pushed forward, the 51st Infantry did not realize it was racing ahead of the two regiments on its flanks. Two large holes were forming in the attacking line.

The Japanese were reacting energetically to the intensity of the Fil-American push. The Imai force was getting back-stopped. Finally the Takechi force was getting set to strike, and troops of the Japanese 142nd Infantry were shifting westward from the Fil-American right to beef up the Japanese defense at the Fil-American left.

At about noon, after approximately seven hours of fighting, Imai saw the holes and his opportunity to counterattack. Takechi, he knew, was now pressing against the 51st Infantry, and troops of the Japanese 142nd were hitting the Philippine 41st at the Fil-American center. He could swing at the 51st Infantry and open the way for a breakthrough, but the move would be dangerous - - he would expose his own flank to attack by the Philippine 41st. He decided to clear his flank first, slugging at the 41st with both fists. Lim, as usual, threw him back.

The 51st Infantry was now facing fire from three directions. Nothing could be more terrifying to troops in battle than the thought of being surrounded and cut off from routes of retreat. Were Jones in telephone contact with his regiment, he could have saved the day. Obviously he was not. In the afternoon the regiment scattered. Jones' headquarters, concerned now with saving the division, ordered his other regiment - - the 53rd Infantry - - out of battle and into the sanctuary of the Natib slopes. Of the 51st Infantry, Jones could round up only 100 stragglers. These he put astride the Guitol trail, about 4,000 yards behind his previous positions - - if the Japanese came that way, he would block them. As he marched his stragglers off, he took one look at the scene of action. The entire Fil-American left had disintegrated.

What began with the promise of victory was now a disaster. The remarkable thing was that the Japanese did not know it. The thick jungle which undid the Filipinos was now a puzzler to the Japanese - - they themselves had no clear idea of what was going on.



FORTIFICATIONS ON BATAAN. Tank obstacles and double-apron fence entanglements are shown in top photo while below is a roadblock near the Mauban Line.

But George Parker, analyzing reports at his headquarters in Limay, knew that his left flank had evaporated. Forthwith he ordered the Philippine Division to reestablish the Fil-American left. The American brigadier in command of the division, Maxon S. Lough, got one of his two regiments - - the U.S. 31st Infantry - - quickly in position. At zero hour, 8:15 a.m. January 17, the other regiment - - was just coming up. Lough did not wait for the 45th to get set. He ordered the 31st to strike immediately - - he would increase pressure on the Japanese when the 45th got into the line. Lough knew the fate of the Abucay line depended upon swift attack.

On the other side of the mountain, the Fil-Americans were also taking a beating. Thinking he could not hold it. Wainwright had abandoned the ridge below Morong and retired to his outposts. This put Naoki Kimura in position to move according to plan. One Japanese force pounded the Fil-American outpost line. Another swung eastward, trying for a breakthrough at Silaňanan.

But Homma, impatient now, wanted a quick knockout at Mauban line. A Japanese bridgehead at that point would expose Mauban to attack from the rear.

The fight for the outposts was bitter. A Japanese night attack took the position. Counterattacking in the morning, Fidel Segundo's Philippine 1st - - mostly late enlistees and boys from the ROTC - - got it back. The Japanese regained possession after another night attack and refused to let go. The Filipinos had to withdraw to the main battle line.

The Japanese drive toward Silaňanan was unbelievably easy. The lieutenant colonel in command of the attacking force, Hiroshi Nakanishi, sent out scouts

to see how the Filipinos were set up. The scouts came back with reports of incredible Fil-American carelessness - - a wide gap lay in the jungle between two Filipino infantry regiments. Nakanishi whistled through his teeth.

Quietly he went through the gap, sneaking southward with heavy equipment until he reached the west road, which curled due southeast from Mauban. Here, about three miles east of Mauban and behind the Fil-American right, he built a roadblock - - a minefield, tank traps, 37-millimeter anti-tank guns, automatic weapons. He could not believe his luck. Absolutely with no sweat, he had cut the supply line from Limay - - the Fil-American supply center on Bataan - - to the Mauban front. The Filipino troops in Mauban could now be starved into surrender. Once they ran out of ammunition, they would cease to be an effective fighting force.

But MacArthur, studying his situation map on Corregidor, did not know this yet. What was worrying him was the Fil-American reverses in Abucay. The Philippine Division, ordered to reestablish the Fil-American left, was making no headway. By day under heavy artillery and air attack and at night harried by infiltration parties, the Americans were getting nowhere. They could not attack behind the fire of their Stokes mortars - - most of the ammunition turned out to be duds. After five days of fighting, they were pinned down to approximately the same place where they had begun.

This left Mac-Arthur with no choice. The way the fighting went, the Fil-American left would never be restored. He ordered a general withdrawal, to begin January 23 "under cover of darkness."

That night an American torpedo boat, PT 34, was on patrol 10 miles below the Mauban line. It saw a dim light low on the water. It called out, "Boat ahoy!" The reply was a hail of shot - - the light came from a Japanese barge. PT 34 sank the barge quickly, all four of its .50 caliber machineguns blazing. Half an hour later, cruising up the coast, PT 34 ran into another Japanese barge and killed it.

The two barges were part of a Japanese amphibious force under a lieutenant colonel, Nariyoshi Tsunehiro, altogether 900 men. Its mission was to land at Caibobo Point below Bagac and plant a dagger in Mac-Arthur's back. Homma had planned the landings to speed things up. Bataan was taking too long. He was losing face. Navigating in rough seas and darkness, Tsunehiro's force split in two, one landing at Quinauan Point, well below Caibobo, and the other at Longoskawayan Point off Mariveles at the tip of Bataan. Tsunehiro's expedition would be destroyed in what was to be known as the Battle of the Points.

The withdrawal order apparently did not reach the Philippine 1st at once. Fighting was hot at Wainwright's left flank and at the roadblock behind his right. The west road could not be used as a withdrawal route unless the roadblock was knocked out.

A tank attack began the Fil-American fight to take the roadblock. Two tanks exploded quickly under Japanese mines. Though getting howitzer and small arms fire from all sides, the Japanese, replying with machineguns and anti-tank guns, refused to be driven off. The battle raged for days, with the combatants reduced to eating roots and whatever eatables the jungle offered. Only the will to win sustained attacker and defender. The irresis-

tible force had finally collided with the immovable object.

Japanese determination paid off. The Mauban front, its stocks of food and ammunition spent, got weaker and weaker. The American colonel in temporary command of the Philippine 1st, K. L. Berry, thought a Japanese breakthrough was a matter of time. Unable to reach Wainwright, on January 25 he acted on his own and gave the order to withdraw.

With the Japanese astride the west road, he must retreat through ravines and jungle. Moving his artillery, altogether 25 pieces, on this kind of terrain was out of the question - - the guns had to be destroyed. Berry's artillery officers removed breechlocks and firing pins in heavy silence - - most had tears in their eyes. Then, at nightfall, the men of the Philippine 1st withdrew, one battalion at a time behind a covering force. They took trails in deep jungles on Bataan's western shore, carrying their wounded in litters. It was a well-planned retreat, executed with skill. The Japanese never knew until too late that the Fil-Americans were gone.

While all this was going on, the men of the Abucay front had withdrawn to new positions in a line running from Bagac eastward to Orion. The retreat was just as skillful. Behind a covering force - - strung out in a line extending from the east road to an anchor of ravine and jungle - - the Fil-American divisions moved out. No one directed traffic - - there were no military police. The east road teemed with masses of vehicles and men so thick that at some points traffic could not move. But there was no scramble for the right of way. It was ordered confusion.

For two nights and one day, the covering shell stood up to Japanese attack,

counterpunching so hard the Japanese did not know it was shielding a general retreat. When finally they realized what was happening, they went off in hot pursuit. But their blows lacked power now. Though getting full rations, they were exhausted.

Their air arm definitely was not. All day on January 25, almost without letup, Japanese aircraft unloaded bombs and sprayed bullets on the retreating columns. Under the rain of missiles, the Fil-Americans, their uniforms now in tatters, kept moving south. When at last they occupied positions in the new line, the covering force was disbanded. The retreat was over.

MacArthur had lost 35 per cent of his forces and had no way of replacing them. Unknown to him, Japanese losses were just as heavy. In just two weeks of hard fighting, the Japanese lost over 2,000 combat casualties in Abucay. Their losses in Mauban must have been proportionately as high.

Despite weariness and lack of sleep, the Fil-Americans immediately began fortifying the new line. Like a boxer getting a second wind, they braced up for the second round of fighting. But through it all ran a note of despair. Looking about him in his new sector, a Philippine Division lieutenant, Henry G. Lee, caught the feeling in a poem. Bataan, he wrote, had been saved for another day - -

“Saved for hunger and wound and

heat, For slow exhaustion and grim retreat, For a wasted hope and a sure defeat.”

It was all that and more. Yet for 74 more days Bataan held, standing up to every Japanese attack - - an embarrassment to Japanese arms. In a Southeast Asia where Japanese invincibility seemed beyond dispute, Hongkong, Singapore and the key Indonesian islands had quickly fallen, but Bataan kept on shooting to tell the world that Japanese armies could be stopped. Given only 50 days to complete his Philippine conquest, Homma realized it was an impossible job. In the end he had to swallow his pride, doing what Japanese generals were trained not to do - - tell Tokyo he could not take Bataan without heavy reinforcements and more guns. Faced with no alternative, Tokyo complied, though marking Homma as an inept general.

By that time any general with sufficient numbers of fresh troops, artillery and aircraft could take Bataan. The fractional rations - - a small mound of rice flavored with canned salmon twice a day - - had made the Fil-American troops unfit for combat. Malnutrition had cleared the way for the onset of disease, which attacked more surely than the Japanese did. As the campaign drew to the final battle, large numbers of the men could not even lift a gun.

Courage was there - - but not the physical strength to sustain it.

SAVE IN BANKS

The Bataan Commemorative Coin



In 1967, the Central Bank of the Philippines issued a silver commemorative coin to mark the 25th anniversary of the Fall of Bataan. Struck in .900 fine silver and measuring 38.1 mm., it does not bear a mintmark though it was minted at the San Francisco Mint with proof-like quality.

The obverse depicts a broken sword in flames with laurel leaves on both sides and the commemorative inscription "25th ANNIVERSARY OF BATAAN DAY 1942 1967" surrounding the design. The reverse has the seal of the Philippines and the inscription "REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES" and "ONE PESO" around it.

Very seldom if ever has a country commemorated a defeat in bat-

tle, specially in one which signalled the total conquest of a whole nation. The broken sword and the laurel leaves - - symbolic of defeat and victory, respectively - - seem not to jibe when combined into a single design. But to a freedom-loving people, particularly those who survived the ordeals of Bataan and the dark period of enemy occupation, the heroic defeat of the Filipino and American forces in Bataan - - like the Alamo - - had become the rallying point which united the free world into ultimate victory against the Axis powers.

One sees in the Bataan silver coin, not a reminder of a defeat, but a memorial to a victory.
—A. D. M.—

ANTONIO V. BANTUG

by

Doris G. Nuyda

It was inevitable that Antonio V. Bantug should become a collector - - a coin collector in particular. Almost since birth he was immersed in Filipiniana, thanks to a father whose love for cultural memorabilia, both new and old, was similarly developed in the son - - almost like osmosis.

Learning the ropes from his father was as enjoyable as it was educational and Bantug the younger considers himself fortunate that he was often present when his parent and mentor made his acquisitions, and that at times they were made during travels abroad.

Tony Bantug recalls that it was his father's desire to show that Filipinos were never the uncouth savages, as some foreign visitors were wont to think, that prompted his first incursions into Filipiniana.

As it turned out, Dr. Jose P. Bantug was to become one of the first Filipinos to set out on the task of gathering the beautiful objects of his country, evolving a personal collection - - a wide range of Filipiniana books, numismatics, art, furniture, pottery, etc. - - whose aesthetic and historical value might have been unequalled today had they survived the last war.

But bombs and looting dissipated practically to zero all that was meticulously and lovingly gathered through the years, so that after the war, the elder Bantug had to start all over again. (See *Barrilla*, October 1974 issue.)

Starting all over again, however, had one advantage: it made the son find out first-hand from the father the joy and thrill of hunting for the right objects, of learning their worth in point of workmanship and historicity. With such an exposure, it was no wonder that Bantug the son would himself evolve into an authority on Philippine antiquity, part of which is an impressive collection of Philippine coins and medals.

Bantug confessed that it has been during the past five years that saw his old interest in coins rekindled. Reassembling his things one day, he gathered the coins and medals that had been set aside in favor of business and other equally pressing matters, and felt a familiar excitement engulf him. And almost at once, an involvement in coins returned.

His collection is largely Philippine and his prize coin is a two-centavo (*dos centimos*) Aguinaldo copper issued during the short-lived Philippine Republic under



Mr. Antonio Bantug (in dark glasses) at the ribbon-cutting ceremonies of the Second National Numismatic Convention sponsored by the PNAS of which he is the president.

General Aguinaldo in 1899. The coin looks quite ordinary (See *Barrilla*, Vol. II, No. 1), and except for the fact that probably not more than five or six of its kind are extant today, which makes it one of the great rarities in Philippine numismatics, it is not likely that a layman would take a second look at it.

This Aguinaldo coin, however, is one of the very few items that remain of his father's original collection, so that to him, its value as a piece of nostalgia quite surpasses rarity and historical value.

While many art and culture aficionados in the country tend to identify the Bantug name with Filipiniana collections, it is not commonly known that Tony Bantug is very much a businessman which allows him to continue his father's fastidious hobby. And as things of that nature cost what they do, a collector must be more fastidious than ever, and only a well-trained eye for the really worthwhile objects makes this possible.

As a businessman, Bantug is, among other appointments, exclusive representative of a foreign firm dealing in Philippine handicrafts. His colleagues must feel reassured in their man at the job, considering his taste and eye for fine things.

As a husband, he is equally fortunate. His wife, the former Asuncion Lopez Rizal Arguelles belongs to a family similarly steeped in nationalistic bent in its cultural pursuits, as the family museum in Mandaluyong attests.

As a father (to one daughter, four sons), nothing reassures him more than the thought that to all five - - and their spouses as well - - he has passed on his own love for Philippine antiquity which he considers a heritage all its own.

Today, as he reassembles his collection for an updated assessment, the collector's gleam is bright in his eye. It was particularly bright during the national convention in November 1975 of the Philippine Numismatic & Antiquarian Society of which he is president, and where his exhibit of Philippine coins from the "barrilla" of 1766 to the Aguinaldo coin of 1899 was highly acclaimed.

Asked what other coins were of interest to him, Bantug replied that a 1910 ten-centavo piece would be a good acquisition today (since there is some doubt as to its existence), describing it as "quite rare" with a certain inflection in his voice that left no doubt that he had never really left off being a numismatist. □

The Sunken Treasure of Corregidor

by
Angelita G. Legarda, M.D.

(This is taken from a larger work soon to be published by the author.)

December 8, 1941 was a dark day for the Philippines. On that day the first Japanese bombs fell on various cities of the country signalling the beginning of what was to be the Japanese invasion of the islands. The U.S. Fleet left Manila Bay in late December, and the only contact left with the outside world was an occasional submarine. Although the allied troops fought valiantly there was no doubt what the outcome would be at that time. In the Treasury, subject to possible take-over by the Japanese, were about seventy million pesos' worth of paper currency, about 1,330 kilos of gold bars, and about sixteen and a half million pesos worth of silver coins.

In January 1942, the submarine *Trout* left Pearl Harbor loaded with desperately needed ammunition for the besieged allies. This was successfully delivered in February, and on the return trip, the weight of the ammunition which had been unloaded was replaced by the gold bullion and 18 tons of silver valued at about \$360,000. This was the only part

of the treasure successfully carried away before the Japanese took over.

On April 9, Bataan fell, and it was obvious that Corregidor would soon follow. Since all the gold bullion, silver pesos, Philippine securities, and official U.S. documents had been transported to Corregidor for safe-keeping before the retreat from Manila, now about 350 tons of silver pesos still remained on Corregidor, worth approximately 15,792,000 pesos. The seventy million pesos' worth of paper currency had been set to fire earlier. The decision was made to dump the silver treasure into deep water in Caballo Bay, off the southern part of Corregidor island, to keep it from falling into the hands of the Japanese.

"The treasure to be dumped was stowed in cloth bags containing 2000 pesos each, and placed in wooden boxes which measured 14" x 14" x 24", each holding three bags or 6000 pesos per box. Filled with money, the boxes weighed 300 pounds apiece.



Salvaged silver coins showing signs of corrosion.



Coin at left is an almost uncirculated specimen of the 1907 silver peso while at right is a coin of the same date which was among those salvaged from Manila Bay off Corregidor Island.



Aerial view of Corregidor Island.

Thus shortly before the U.S. and Filipino forces surrendered on May 6, 1942, a king's ransom, estimated at between 14,000,000 and 17,000,000 pesos were dumped in the deep water south of Corregidor."

During the Japanese Occupation the Japanese Army attempted to recover the sunken treasure which they had somehow learned about. At the cost of several Filipino lives - - divers who drowned because of poor diving conditions and inadequate equipment- -they managed to retrieve approximately 2,000,000 pesos. American Navy prisoners were also drafted into diving for the Japanese. Some of these were able to "steal" a few thousand pesos from under the noses of their Japanese guards and use them to secure badly needed supplies for themselves and their fellow prisoners. There are no exact figures on the amounts recovered during the Japanese Occupation.

After the war, the U. S. Navy's Seventh Fleet began salvage operations in an effort to recover the treasure. Between May 1945 and April 1946 they recovered nearly five million pesos. Later, private entities contracted by the Philippine government were able to retrieve an additional 6,533,297 pesos. At the end of salvage operations in 1958, it was estimated that about 75% of the total, or approximately 12,000,000 pesos, had been salvaged. To this date, the remainder lies under the sea.

The silver coins recovered from Caballo Bay show the effects of their three-year immersion in sea water. Most are coral-encrusted, deeply corroded, and coated with a black substance which is almost impossible to remove.

The Japanese themselves issued no coinage during the Occupation, and used some of the silver coins they got their hands on to produce medals for their army.



THE MONEY PLANT

by
Julian Wethered

Created in the silence of the design and engraving sections, bubbled through nickel and chrome plating tanks, the banknote at last enters the noise and glare of the production plant in the guise of a complete set of gleaming printing plates.

Here, under constant human and electronic security surveillance, in a custom-built security production unit, millions of banknotes will be manufactured in the exact image of the original proof approved by the Issuing Authority.

The background tints, which started life as a delicate mingling of watercolours from an artist's brush, are now offset simultaneously from five plates in 'perfecting' mechanical register onto the all-rag mould-made watermarked banknote paper in rainbows of pastel shades.

Giant intaglio presses, weighing up to fifty tons each, follow on with crushing impact, forcing the paper into the engraving to seek out ink from each tiny dot and line embedded in the nickel plate.

Holding exact print register, plate to plate and colour to colour, million after million banknotes, these remarkable

presses perform their exclusive function in the achievement of the perfect modern security document, which is itself the highest form of the printer's skill. Because this exclusivity is inimitable, it is security.

Printed sheets, carrying thirty two notes each, are fed into electronically programmed numbering presses where each receives its individual personality in the form of a prefixed number.

Sheets are examined against the highest quality control standards before being guillotined into singles. Thus at last has the combination of printing plates, special inks and paper become an individual banknote. Money has been made, and frequent counts linked to constant control by security invigilators see to it that it gets treated as such.

Single notes are re-examined at the packet stage, and replacements inserted if necessary; making up one thousand perfect notes to each packet. After a final count, the packet is banded, shrunk-wrapped in polythene and placed in a tin-lined security case which is then sealed and closed, and placed in a strongroom to



A guard monitoring the operations of a security printing plant through a closed-circuit TV system.

await shipment to the place of issue.

Being such a small piece of paper and having so much responsibility in the merrygoround of a cash economy, the

modern banknote needs a good pedigree to stand the pace. Notes created with the future in mind meet the challenge of the present.

As the Earl of Lytton wrote:

“You may live without poetry, music and art;
You may live without conscience and live without heart;
You may live without friends; you may live without drawings,
But civilized man cannot live without coins.”

Nor can coin collectors.

—World Coin News
January 6, 1976

The World of Ancient Coins

(Continued From Last Issue)

by

1976 James W. Thompson

ROMAN COLONIAL COINAGE

Part of the Roman policy towards her provinces was the establishment, at strategic points, of colonies of Roman citizens. Many famous cities of antiquity, such as Corinth, Carthage and Tyre received colonies. Beginning to a limited extent under Julius Caesar, and growing to a very large extent under Augustus, permission was granted to various colonies to issue coins for their own use.

These coins, nearly only in bronze (the few silver coins known are of extreme rarity), have the portrait of the emperor or one of his family on one side and the name and honorific titles of the city on the other (plate 60). The reverse types are usually of a few standardized types, such as a deity standing (plate 61), several legionary standards, or a colonist plowing a circle around the city (the ceremony of founding a city) (cf. plate 38). In some cases, however, various individualized and interesting reverses were struck, alluding to the history of the city. We show two examples in the plates (nos. 62 and 63). The first coin shows an eagle flight, carrying the head of a bull; it was struck

at Alexandria in Troas. This is a reference to the following legend: the original founders of this city were Trojans, survivors of the famous war. Ready to build a new city, they offered sacrifices to the gods for aid in choosing a site; an eagle appeared, seized the head of one of the sacrificed bulls and dropped it a short distance away. This was taken as an omen and the city was built where the head had fallen. The other coin comes from Tyre and shows the two rocks (the Ambrosian rocks) where the old city of Tyre was supposed to have been built.

In addition to these interesting types, a few cities also struck coins showing various building and temples located in the city. Such coins served as advertisements and souvenirs for tourists. Here we show (plates 64-65) a view of a stadium from Corinth and a temple from Berytus in Phoenicia.

The issuing life of these colonies was generally rather short. Many struck during only one or two reigns, though some struck throughout the whole period. The western colony mints were all closed in the reign of Caligula (37-41); the others were slowly diminished in

number until the last few shut down in the time of Aurelianus (270-275).

ROMAN REPUBLICAN COINAGE

The first coinage of Rome appeared around 400 BC and consisted of crude lumps of unmarked bronze, called "aes rude". As time went on, these heavy bronzes (each weighing several pounds) were replaced by cast bars of bronze. These bore the figure of an animal on either side and were called "aes signatum".

When Rome decided to expand into the Grecian, southern part of Italy (269 BC), she abandoned the monstrous pseudo-coins in favor of a two part system. Heavy, round bronze ("aes grave") were cast for use in northern and central Italy (plate 66), while a struck silver and bronze coinage was developed to trade and compete with the southern Greeks (plate 67).

About a decade after the Second Punic War, the cast bronzes were abandoned as were the Grecian style coins. They were replaced by a struck silver and bronze coinage (plate 68), based on the silver denarius and the bronze as. As the size and number of the bronzes rapidly diminished, silver dominated the scene. (Note: except for a small issue during the Second Punic War, gold was not a part of Roman currency at this time).

The denarius was a simple coin at first, showing the head of Roma on the obverse and either the Dioscuri (twin sons of Jupiter) (plate 69) or a chariot (plate 70) on the reverse. Gradually, however, the patricians who were entrusted with the coinage began adding their names to the coins. Later, they placed scenes and types on the coins which were related to

famous deeds of their ancestors. Two such coins are in the plates (nos. 70 and 71), and the events they portray are mentioned in the notes.

The great civil war, which began with Marius and ended with Augustus, left its mark on the coinage. Firstly, the gold coinage came into its own for the first time because of the appearance of bullion captured in Asia Minor. Secondly, many moneyers abandoned the worship of their ancestors for types referring to the terrible civil struggle taking place. The coin of Q. Sicinius (plate 72) is an excellent example. It was struck in 49 BC and the caduceus and palm on the reverse are symbolic of the (temporary) success of Pompey and the Senatorial party.

The last coins of the republic are those struck by various moneyers in the name of Caesar (plate 73), Antonius, Cassius, Brutus, Lepidus and Octavian (later Augustus). Caesar first struck coins with his own portrait; they were probably a contributing factor to his assassination.

After his salutation as Augustus, Octavian permitted the moneyers to continue minting coins with their own names and titles. The gold and silver were soon taken from them. The bronze specimen which we show (plate 74) has the reverse legend which is an abbreviation of: "Caius CALLIVS LVPERCVS III VIROrum Auro Argento Aero Flando Feriundo" (Lupercus, of the monetary triumvirs, striker of gold, silver and bronze coins). This was a standard formula for these men. About 4 BC, these coins were discontinued and the true imperial coinage begun.

ROMAN IMPERIAL COINAGE

The Greeks, as we have seen, developed the artistry of coinage to the highest degree; the imperial Romans recognized and developed the use of coinage as a medium for propaganda. In the coins is preserved a record of the achievements of the various emperors; not only in war, but also in reform, public works and other things. We shall discuss some of these in the second part of this article.

Nearly all Roman Imperial coins show the head of an emperor, empress, caesar (heir-apparent) or other member of the imperial family, with their names and titles, on the obverse. The reverses are quite varied, but very often a god, goddess or personification (a human representation of an abstract concept such as "peace", "faith" or "joy").

When Augustus abolished the system of moneyers as mentioned above, he divided the minting authority. He reserved the right to coin in gold and silver for himself, while he gave titular control of most of the bronze coinage to the Senate. Such pieces as were authorized by the Senate may be recognized by the letters "SC" (Senatus Consulto, by decree of the Senate), which are generally found on the reverse. This pretence of senatorial authority continued until AD 274, during the rule of Aurelianus.

The gold coinage of the Romans was based on the aureus, which was about 15-20 mm. in size. This coin was issued until the time of Constantine the Great, when it was replaced by a similar coin called the solidus. This new coin was minted until the fall of the empire. Interestingly, Roman gold maintained its weight and purity throughout the centuries. In



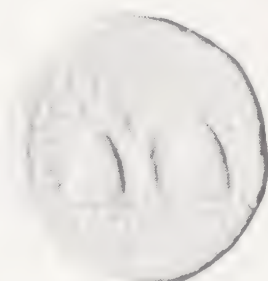
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66



addition to these standard coins, there were fractional gold coins and also multi-aurei and solidii coins (the latter were medallions, struck as gifts for the allies of the emperor).

The silver coinage suffered terribly from the inflation which contributed to the destruction of the Roman world. The denarius of Augustus (plate 75) was of nearly pure silver; it was soon reduced in size and cut to about 50% purity (plate 76). By the mid-third century it was a bronze coin plated with silver. A double-denarius, called the antoninianus (plate 77), appeared in AD 215, but was very soon cut in size and became bronze (plates 78 and 79). The antoninianus was last struck in 296; the last denarii were probably struck at Treveri (Trier, Germany) mint c. 309-310 (plate 80). A new

type of silver coin was introduced about this time and these continued until the Byzantine period (plate 93). Just as with the gold, both fractional and multiple silver coins and medallions were struck.

The bronze coinage was initially based on a large coin called the sestertius (plate 81), and its divisions: the dupondius ($\frac{1}{2}$ sestertius) (plate 83); the as ($\frac{1}{4}$) (plates 85-86); the semis ($\frac{1}{8}$) (plate 88); the quadrans ($\frac{1}{16}$) (plate 89). The bronzes of the period from Nero to Domitian (AD 54-96) are the most beautiful of all Roman coins. Unfortunately, the coins soon suffered drastic reductions in weight and size (plates 82, 84 and 87). The two smallest denominations were rarely used after the mid-second century; the other coins disappeared about a century later. Throughout this period, many



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rare and beautiful bronze medallions of various sizes were struck (plate 90).

When the silver coinage was reformed in 296, a new bronze coin, called the follis was issued (plate 91); it was initially of a large size, but it was soon reduced (plate 92). From the time of Constantine (309-337), four sizes of bronze were struck, ranging in size from 10 to 30 mm (plates 94-97). By about 420, the larger sizes of these coins were discontinued and only very tiny coins were struck. These coins are extremely crude and poorly done, their legends and types nearly undecipherable (plate 97).

With the fall of the western empire in 476, and the development of the Byzantine coins in the east, the world of ancient coins ends and the world of medieval coinage begins.

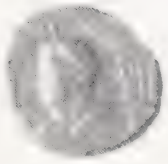
THE IMPORTANCE OF ANCIENT COINS

Our knowledge of the ancient world has been greatly enlarged by the study of its coins. We cannot possibly examine all the ways in which this is true, but we can point out some relevant examples in several areas of study.

History: Many coins were struck by the Romans to commemorate their deeds in war. When a cohort (part of a legion) was settled as a colony by Augustus at the site of their victory over Cassius and Brutus (Philippi), they struck coins to commemorate this battle (plate 98). Another colony in Gaul struck coins honoring Augustus' conquest of Egypt from Cleopatra. These coins show a crocodile chained to a palm tree (plate 99); rather obvious symbolism. When Vespasian (69-79) ended the revolt of the Jews in 72, he marked his victory with a series of coins (plate 100). As the days of Roman conquest ended, her coins reflected the search for peace. Philipp I (244-249) was forced to conclude a very unfavourable treaty with the Persians; even this was optimistically reported as "PAX FVN-DATA CVM PERSIS" (a firm peace with the Persians) (plate 101).

We find a record of victories of another sort on the coins of Nero. In 66, at the culmination of his artistic endeavours, he sailed to Greece to participate in the games held there. His arrival was noted on a coin of the colony of Corinth (plate 102); his predictable victories at





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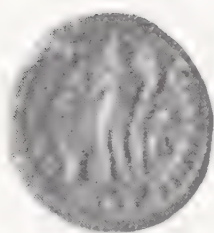
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these games were honored by a series of six coins struck at Alexandria (plate 103), showing the heads of the deities to whom the games were dedicated. At Rome, Nero had the figure of himself as the god Apollo, playing the lyre, placed on bronze coins (plate 104).

These few examples are just a slight indication of the historical value of these coins. A number of Grecian and Roman rulers are known only from their coins; without these places, no record would exist of them. Indeed, one of the scholars consulted in the preparation of *Cam-*

bridge Ancient History was the famous numismatist, Dr. Mattingly of the British Museum.

Art and Achitecture: Coins provide us with the only visual documentation for many lost or damaged buildings and statues. A number of famous Grecian landmarks appear on coins. Certain coins from Crete for example, give the supposed floor plan for the famous Labyrinth of King Minos (plate 105). The Pharos lighthouse, one of the Seven Wonders, is found on coins of Roman Egypt (plate 106). Quite a number of famous sculp-



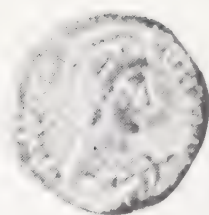
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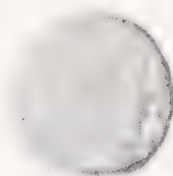
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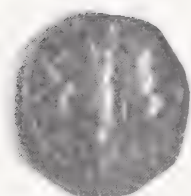
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tures also appear; an example from Corinth (plate 107) shows the statue of Peirene, which was on a large fountain of the same name. Another, more interesting example, is the appearance of the famous Palladium (vide the *Aeneid* of Virgil, book II, line 163-175) on a few coins of Ilium, the Latin name for Troy (plate 108).

Neither the late Republican nor the Imperial Romans were hesitant in portraying their temples and monuments. The temple of Jupiter Capitolinus, where generals made vows for victory, is found on a number of coins (plate 109). The little temple of Janus, the location of which is not known, appears on coins of Nero (put there to honor the closing of its doors, only possible when there was peace throughout the empire) (plate 110). The famous Trajan's Column, still standing in Rome, appears in its original form on the coins of its builder (plate 111). Once in a while, an emperor portrays a temple that we did not even know existed. An example is the building shown on a coin of Antoninus Pius (138-161) (plate 112). Though it is not certain, this may be a temple honoring the guardian spirit of the senate.

Religion: Much information about Greek and Roman religious life may be gleaned from coins. From Rome, in addition to the usual figures of deities, several rites are shown as well as priests and their sacred tools (plate 113).

The main contribution which coins make in this area is in illuminating the mysterious cults of Asia Minor. Many strange and ancient deities were worshipped there; some of these cults may be traced back to the time of the Sumerians and Babylonians. One cult, which has recently attracted scholarly attention, is



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113



114



115



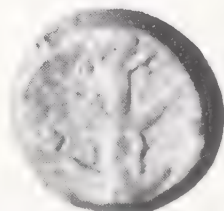
116



117



118



119

the worship of Hekate, goddess of witchcraft and of the underworld (plate 114). This religion seems to have been very extensive and may have been the ancestor of the witchcraft cults of medieval Europe.

Several well known gods and goddesses were combined with older deities in the east. At Ephesus, the Grecian Artemis was combined with an old fertility goddess to create the strange Artemis Ephesia; a great temple, one of the Seven Wonders, was built for her and appears as a sketch or as a full building on coins (plate 115). At Tarsus, cultists intermingled the worship of Herakles with that of a Babylonian hero to produce the cult of Sandan (plate 116).

Even stranger than these cults were those which honored rocks and trees. The former, worshipped stones held to be gifts from the gods (in all probability meteors); this may have influenced the early Moslems (plate 117). The tree cults were more limited in area than the stone cults. One of the most important centers was at Selge in Pisidia (SW coast of Turkey), where the styrax tree was worshipped in connection with the cults of Zeus and Herakles (plate 118).

Botany: Just to show the diversity of fields aided by ancient numismatics, we may point out that our only knowledge of the appearance of the extinct silphium plant comes from coins. This remarkable plant was grown in one part of North Africa; it was used as an antiseptic and as an incense and was worth its weight in silver at one time. Drought and neglect during the end of the Roman empire caused its extinction, but its shadow remains on coins from the area in which it grew, Cyrenaica (plate 119).

This, then, will give the reader some idea of the remarkable data which has been given us by the coins of the ancients.

ADVICE TO NEW COLLECTORS

Having collected ancients for a number of years, I have gained some insight into the problems facing the beginning collector (mostly by direct experience!); I would like to conclude by offering these four pieces of advice to anyone entering this collecting field:

1. Buy the book before the coin: know what you want to collect what it is worth and know how to determine false from genuine coins (vide the bibliography which follows).
2. Buy from reputable dealers: no coin is a bargain if it is a fake. Buying from experts costs more, but it is safer for the beginner.
3. Study: the more time you put in learning about your coins, the more you will get out of them. There is nothing sadder, in my view, than a collector who has a fine collection, but his coins are closed books to him because he never has taken the time to learn about them.
4. Enjoy: the study and collecting of ancients is a great joy, no matter whether they are gold or bronze, Greek, Roman or somewhere in between.

60. Cascantum in Spain, 14-37. Ae as. (Tiberius) /Bull. H. 7. R.
61. Viminacium in Moesia, 251. Ae sestertius. (Herennia Etruscilla) /Moesia. BMC — . R. The animals on either side of Moesia are symbols of the legions stationed there.
62. Alexandria in Troas, 198-217. Ae. (Caracalla) /Eagle with bull's head BMC 99.
63. Tyre in Phoenicia, 238-244. Ae. (Gordian III) /Ambrosian rocks. BMC — . R.
64. Corinth in Corinthia, 177-138. Ae. (Hadrianus) /Stadium(?). Imhoof C47. R.
65. Berytus in Phoenicia, 198-217. Ae. Caracalla/Astarte in temple. (Numbers 66-74 are Roman republic; numbers 75-97 are Roman imperial.)
66. Aes grave, as. 195-187 BC. Janus/ (Prow of ship) Syd. 101. R.
67. Ar victoriatum, 195-187 BC. Jupiter/Victory and trophy. (Metapontum mint). Syd. 111.
68. Ae struck uncia, 205-195 Bc. Bellona/Prow of ship. Syd. 86.
69. Ar denarius, Q. Minucius Rufus, 137-134 BC. Roma/Dioscuri. Syd. 421.
70. Ar denarius, Q. Fabius Labeo, 119-110 BC. Roma/Jupiter in quadriga. Syd. 532. The prow beneath the horses refers to an ancestor's naval victory in the east.
71. Ar denarius, Q. Minucius Thermus, 96-95 BC. (Mars) /Two soldiers fighting. Syd. 592. This records his ancestor's bravery against the Ligurians in the 200's BC.
72. Ar denarius, Q. Sicinius, 49-48 BC. (Fortuna) /Palm, caduceus, etc. Syd. 938.
73. Ar denarius, C. Julius Caesar, 47 BC. (Venus) /captives and trophy. Syd. 1014.
74. Ae as, C. Gallius Lupercus, 15 BC. (Augustus)/Inscription. C. 436. (Numbers 75-97 have the head of the emperor on the obverse, unless otherwise stated.)
75. Augustus (27 BC-AD 14). Ar denarius/ (Comet). C. 99. R.
76. Antoninus Pius (138-161). Ar denarius/ (Salus). C. 1039.
77. Gordianus III (238-244). Ar antoninianus/ (Apollo). C. 250.
78. Gallienus (253-268). Ae antoninianus/ (Panther). C. 586.
79. Tetricus I (270-273). Ae antoninianus/ (Laetitia). C. 72.
80. Maximinus II (309-313). Ae denarius/ (Sol in quadriga). C. 175. RRR.
81. Nero (54-68). Ae sestertius/ (Emperor and aide on horseback). C. 83-95. R.
82. Volusianus (251-253). Ae sestertius/ (Emperor standing). C. 93.
83. Nero (54-68). Ae dupondius/ (Macellum, public market). C. 127.
84. Hadrianus (117-138). Ae dupondius/ (Pegasus). C. 436.
85. Vespasianus (69-79). Ae as/ (Eagle on globe). C. 481.
86. Titus (79-81). Ae as/ (Genius). C. 189.
87. Gallienus (253-268). Ae as/ (Pax). R.
88. Trajanus Decius (249-251). Ae semis/ (Soldier). C. 102. R.
89. Nero (54-68). Ae quadrans. (Helmet on column) /Branch. C. 182.
90. Aurelianus and Severina (270-275). Ae medallion. Aurelianus/ (Severina). RR.

91. Constantius I Caesar (293-305). Ae follis/Genius. C. 61.
92. Maximinus II (309-313). Ae follis/Genius.
93. Valens (364-378). Ar siliqua/ (Roma). C. 109.
94. Julianus II (360-363). Ae 1/(Apis bull). C. 39.
95. Gratianus (367-383). Ae 2/ (emperor on galley). C. 25.
96. Constantinus I, the Great (309-337). Ae 3/(Captives and trophy). C. 690.
97. Valentinianus II (375-392). Ae 4/ (Victory dragging captive). C. 30.
98. Philippi in Macedonia, 27 BC-AD 14. Ae. (Victory) /Three standards. BMC 23.
99. Nemausus in Gallia, 30-12 BC. Ae as. (Augustus and Agrippa) /Crocodile, C. 7.
100. Vespasianus (69-79). Ar denarius/ Judea beneath trophy. C. 226. R.
101. Philippus I (244-249). Ar antoninianus/ Pax. C. 113. R.
102. Corinth in Corinthia, 66. Ae. (Nero) /Galley. BMC 567. R.
103. Alexandria in Egypt, 67. Ar tetradrachm. (Nero) /Zeus Olympios, Milne 277.
104. Nero (54-68). Ae as/Nero as Apollo playing lyre. C. 196. R.
105. Cnossus and Gortyna in Crete in alliance, 200 BC. Ae. (Europa on bull) /Labyrinth. BMC 36.
106. Alexandria in Egypt, 191. Ae tetradrachm. (Commodus) /Pharos lighthouse. Milne 2683. R.
107. Corinth in Corinthia, 202-212. Ae. (Plautilla) /Peirene. Imhoof, F107. R.
108. Ilium in Troas, 69-79. Ae. (Vespasian)/Athena between Titus and Domitian. RR.
109. Ar denarius, M. Volterius, 76-75 BC. (Jupiter) /Temple. Syd. 774.
110. Nero (54-68). Ae as/Temple of Janus. C. 171.
111. Trajanus (98-117). Ar denarius/ Trajan's column. C. 568. R.
112. Antoninus Pius (138-161). Ar denarius/Temple of the Senate(?). C. 329. R.
113. Vespasianus (69-79). Ar denarius/ Sacrificial instruments. C. 45.
114. Mastaura in Lydia. 218-222. Ae medallion. (Elagabalus) /Emperor and temple. BMC —. R.
116. Tarsus in Cilicia, 217-218. Ae medallion. (Macrinus) /Sandan on lion. BMC —. RR.
117. Seleucia Pieria in Syria, 222. Ae. (S. Alexander) /Temple with baetyl. BMC —. R.
118. Selge in Pisidia, 138-161. Ae. (Antoninus Pius) /Styrax trees on altar. BMC —. RR.
119. Cyrenaica, 200 BC. Ae. (Zeus-Ammon)/Silphium plant. BMC 23.

A FINAL NOTE

Except for number fifty-nine, all coins are actual size. All coins are from the author's collection. If any readers have questions or comments, I will be pleased to answer them if they will write to me through the Barilla.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

So that the reader may have a stepping stone into ancient coins, I am now closing with a list of books that I believe are valuable for the novice collector. I have avoided technical books and those that are very expensive. The works included are the foundations of a classical numismatic library; some are unfortunately out of print (these are marked with an asterisk).

- Breglia, Dr. L., *Roman Imperial Coins: Their Art and Technique*. Frederick Praeger, New York 1968.
- Brunk, G., "The Ancient Counterstamps". Article in *The Numismatist*, Nov. - Jan. 1974/75.
- Curtis, Col. J., *The Coinage of Roman Egypt: A Survey*. Reprinted from *The Numismatist*, Jan. - Aug. 1956.
- *Donaldson, T., *Ancient Architecture on Coins*. Argonaut, Chicago 1966.
- Franke, P. & Hirmer, M., *Die Griechische Munze*. Munich, 1964. (An exceptional photographic guide to Greek coins. This German edition is out of print, but later English translation is available.)
- Grant, M., *Roman History From Coins*. Cambridge, 1968.
- *Head, B.V., *Historia Numorum*. Latest edition: Spink & Son, London 1963. (This is the classic work on Greek coins. An invaluable reference, it should be reprinted soon.)
- *Hill, G.F., *Ancient Greek and Roman Coins: A Handbook*. Argonaut, Chicago 1964. (An excellent, but technical to a degree, introduction.)
- *Icard, Dr. S., *Identification des Monnaies*. Paris, 1929. (This book is the single greatest aid to collectors of Greek coins. Four hundred and fifty copies of this unknown classic were discovered by Argonaut Publishers in 1968 and were bound in hard covers and sold under the title *Dictionary of Greek Coin Inscriptions*. These are also out of print.)
- Holzer, H. and Schulman, H., *The Thomas Ollive Mabbot Collection*, Parts I & II New York, 1969. (The catalogue of this important collection is a very valuable reference. Part I deals with Greek coins, Part II with Roman.)
- *Imhoof-Blumer, F. and Gardner, P., *Ancient Coins Illustrating Lost Masterpieces of Greek Art*. Argonaut, Chicago 1964.
- Klawans, Z., *Reading and Dating Roman Imperial Coins*. Whitman, 1963. (A good beginner's book with much useful data. The author's book on Greek coins is also useful.)
- Lhotka, J., "Falsifications of Ancient Coins". Reprinted in *Selections From the Numismatists*, Whitman 1960. (There is no really good reference of fakes available today. This is about the best, but experience with genuine coins is the best teacher.)
- Milne, J., *Catalogue of Alexandrian Coins in the Ashmolean Museum*. Spink & Son, London 1971.
- Seaby, H.A., *Greek Coins and Their Values*. London, 1966. (Badly out of date; a new edition is expected soon.)

Roman Silver Coins, volume one: Republic-Augustus. London, 1967. (This is a good reference on Republican silver for those not wishing to buy an expensive reference such as Sydenham.)

Sear, D., *Roman Coins and Their Values*. Seaby, London 1974. (The latest edition of this valuable work. Descriptions and values are given for over four thousand coins.)

Stevenson, S., *A Dictionary of Roman Coins*. Seaby, London 1964. (The best single volume, perhaps the best period, reference on Roman coins.)

Sydenham, Rev. E., *The Coinage of the Roman Republic*. London, 1970 ? (An expensive classic on this subject. I understand a reprint was done in 1970, but I have not seen it.)

Historical References to Coins of the Roman Empire. Spink & Son, London 1968.

In addition to these books, I suggest that the reader subscribe to the regular sale and auction catalogues of well known dealers of ancient coins. The plates and information to be found in these is invaluable.



The Money museum was the site of a reception held recently in honor of the visiting Japanese investors headed by Finance Vice-Minister T. Yoshida. Sec. Cesar E. A. Virata (right) who jointly hosted the affair with Gov. G. S. Licaros converses with one of the guests.

A Tribute to the Men from Fukien

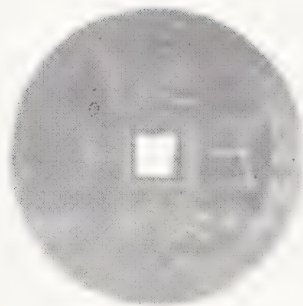
by

Herbert E. Ledyard

Did you know that some early modern Chinese amulets were derived from medieval Chinese coins? J.H. Stewart Lockhart says so, and I believe him. The honorable Mr. Lockhart was Colonial Secretary at Queen's College, Hongkong, and wrote an excellent reference: *Currency of the Farther East from the Earliest Times to 1895*, Noronha & Co., Hongkong, 1907.



Depicted above, please note the unusual 50 m. m. Chinese amulet, c. 1850-1895. Thanks to Mr. Lockhart, a superb numismatist, before this coin story is finished you'll know the significance of the Chinese characters on the amulet.



The Mandarin Chinese dictionary runs to at least 30 volumes. The multitude of Chinese characters consist of pictograms (for objects), ideograms (for abstract ideas), and phonograms (for spoken sound). This can be somewhat mind-boggling for those of us who cannot read Chinese, but in truth, Chinese numismatics is relatively easy and fun, for scholars like Lockhart (and others) have taken the hard work out of it.

Now the star of this coin story is the (illustrated above) 10 cash coin of the North Sung Dynasty, and in this case, the Ts'ung Ning era, 1102-1106 A.D. Generally you'll see this written as the Chung Ning era, but Ts'ung Ning is more scholarly. The key to attributing Chinese cash

coins is to properly orient the characters vertically, i.e., not upside down. Artistic types will have no difficulty at all, for improperly positioned, the characters just don't look right to the eye. For others I suggest the standard reference: *Chinese Currency*, by Schjoth. As a matter of fact, this coin is Schjoth No. 623. Properly positioned, then, most cash coins are

read: RIGHT, LEFT, TOP, BOTTOM, and/or 3 o'clock, 9 o'clock, 12 o'clock, and 6 o'clock. The Chinese characters on Emperor Hui Tsung's coin is read as follows:

The later Chou Dynasty gave way to the Sung in 960 A.D. The Sung Dynasty, founded by Chao Kuang-yin, lasted for 319 years, i.e., or until the founding of the Mongol Dynasty (the Yuan) in 1279.

The Sung marked the beginning of a Chinese renaissance in government, literature, art, and philosophy. Using 130,000 blocks the *Buddhist Canon* was printed in Szechuan in 972, then reprinted at Fukien (and added to) in the years 1080-1104. As early as 1069, granaries were established at a value of 15 million strings of cash for emergency relief. State banking and barter offices were opened in 1072 to protect poor farmers from usurers. Loans were offered in cash or grain in the spring against crop estimates for repayment in the autumn. The interest rate was fixed at 2% a month. Our 10 cash coin Emperor, Hui Tsung, was an accomplished painter and an involved patron of arts and letters. He is noteworthy for founding the Imperial Academy of Painting.

Now if we compare the period of the Sung with Philippine History, their contributions to Philippine culture and tradition, parallels with developments in China become a fascinating study indeed. It is interesting to note that although the *Men of Champa*, or sampan riders, came to the archipelago from Cambodia and Annam c. 1200, archaeological findings at Batanes, Babuyan, and Sorsogon, show that the "so-called" *Hakka Men* from Fukien settled in Eastern Luzon, Sulu and Mindanao . . . hundreds of years earlier.

Weight

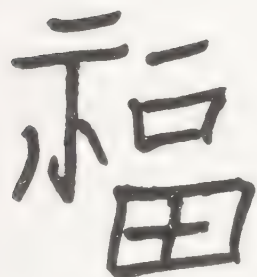
Treasure

Ts'ung

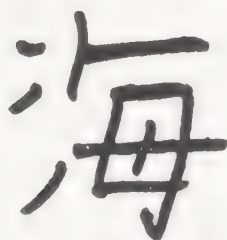
Ning

The famous *kunukun* pottery, which contained relics of the Hakka's ancestors, are attributed to c. 900. See *Chinese Pottery in the Philippines*, by Faye Cooper Cole, Chicago, 1912.

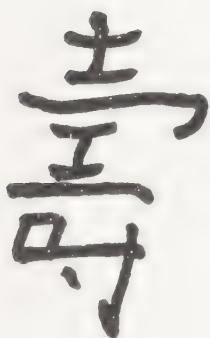
I find it interesting that the dragon symbol used on the beautiful Chinese dragon jars is also used on the reverse of our Chinese amulet. What is the mystery, the meaning, of the amulet? Lockhart tells us that the characters on the amulet were first used on coins, then later on large pieces for use as gambling tokens (or jetons), and for counters during various games. As with the North Sung cash coin, we read: RIGHT, LEFT, TOP, BOTTOM.



Happiness



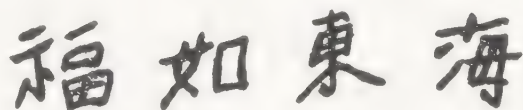
Sea



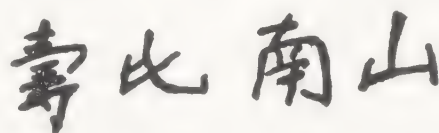
Long Life



Mountain



a) b) c) d)



e) f) g) h)

"MAY YOUR HAPPINESS BE AS VAST AS OR JUST LIKE THE EASTERN SEA, AND MAY YOU HAVE LONG LIFE TO COMPARE WITH THE SOUTHERN MOUNTAIN."

So that you can share your new knowledge of the romance of Chinese numismatics with your friends of Chinese background, the (above) expression in Chinese (phonetically) is: "HU RU DUNG HI SHOW BI NAN SHAN".

Did you know that the Chinese knew of the magnetic compass as early as 200 A.D.? They used a compass rose of 24 points . . . incidentally the same as the Malaysian explorers. The Mongol Dynasty of Jenghiz Khan and Kublai Khan would have been shallow indeed without the influence of the Sung. So it is, I believe, with the rich culture of the Philippine archipelago. This coin story, then is not only a brief introduction to Chinese numismatics, but at the very least a numismatic tribute to the Men from Fukien.

Correspondence

132 Fourth St., 10th Ave.
Grace Park, Caloocan City
February 16, 1976

Dr. Angelita G. Legarda
Executive Editor, *Barrilla*
Central Bank Money Museum
Manila

Madam:

In a sport as cosmopolitan as coin-collecting it embarrasses one to profess sentiments so markedly nationalistic as those inspired by a reading of the past few issues - - or few past issues - - of *Barrilla*. For all its youth the quarterly organ of the Money Museum (plus some) has established for itself a tradition for distinguished writing and scholarship that would do honor to many another publication decades its senior. It shows, besides, a salubrious wit and complete lack of defensiveness so reassuring to a local reader who happens to remember that the medium employed is but a second language in this third-largest English-speaking nation of the world. There is a colonial explanation for all this feeling, but isn't it fun being a Filipino as one reads *Barrilla*?

My other reason for writing this letter is to pose certain questions and make a few observations regarding Doris G. Nuyda's writeup on Mr. Manuel P. Manahan as numismatist (*Barrilla*, January 1976) - - which incidentally was all the more rewarding to read for being less a sketch of

the collector (a man of many parts and reputations) than a portrait of what seems, sight unseen, an impressive numismatic collection. But the questions and observations:

"The collection (writes Miss Nuyda), following a chronological sequence, moves on to Chinese currency showing the early trade traffic between the Chinese and Filipinos. There are, for instance, an 1088 A.D. Sung copper, another of the same dynasty marked 1207 A. D., and an early Ming.

"From the Kingdom of Sulu, he has a copper coin curiously inscribed 1147 A.H."

Now the 1147 A.H. copper coin from the Philippine South is really less problematical. It should be moved from its assumed place in the medieval times to the modern, from the 12th century to the 18th, or if you will, from the times of the last Anglo-Saxon kings to the days of Governor-General Fernando Valdes y Tamon and the Manila-Acapulco galleon trade. The "formula" is a simple one in fact.

The date indicated is a year not in the Christian chronology so familiar to all of us, but one in the chronology of Islam. Christians have their "A.D." (Anno Domini, meaning "in the year of the Lord") and the Moslems their "A.H." (Anno Hegirae, or "in the year of the Hegira"). The hegira, or forced journey of the prophet

Mohammed from his native Mecca to Medina, both in what is now Saudi Arabia, took place in 622 A.D., so right off we know the coin "curiously" inscribed 1147 A.H. to be roughly six centuries younger than some may suppose it is. But then another compensation has to be made for the fact that the Moslems' year is based on the lunar month of 29-1/3 days' duration, whereas the Christians' calendar (shared by many non-Christian and even supposedly godless societies) reckons in terms of the solar year of 365-1/4 days (to be exact, 365 days, 5 hours, 48 minutes and 46 seconds). On an annual basis, the former is 11 days or 3% faster than the latter - - or vice-versa, depending on one's viewpoint. In the instant case, therefore, we have to subtract 34 years from 1147 A.H. and then add 622 years to it in order to date the specimen according to our accustomed reckoning - - 1735 A.D.

Since coins with A.H. dates are fairly common and do not always come with the tell-tale initials (remember, there are 9 Moslems to every 10 Christians) it may help to keep in mind that the earliest full-dated coin ever struck was the 1484 half guldengroschen of Austria.

I trust, Dr. Legarda, that all the foregoing remarks will be taken in the same constructive spirit in which they were given.

Very truly yours,

(SGD.) OSCAR S. FLORENTINO
PNAS 761

U 6, 11
D-6800 Mannheim 1
West Germany
February 11, 1976

Money Museum
Central Bank of the Philippines
Manila, Philippines

Dear Sirs:

Is it possible to get from you your publication *Barrilla*, Vol. I, No. 2? In this issue is published the paper of Mrs. Angelita G. de Legarda entitled "Tibetan Voyage", pp. 46-51. In this paper, Tibetan coinage is discussed. I am working on this problem. If you do not have an original issue, perhaps a photostatic copy of pp. 46-51 will do. Many thanks!

Yours sincerely,

(SGD.) DR. K. GABRISCH



Yale University Library
New Haven, Connecticut
U. S. A.

December 17, 1975

Dr. Benito Legarda, Jr.
Central Bank of the Philippines

Dear Dr. Legarda:

Last year we received the first issue of *Barrilla*, the quarterly journal published by the Central Bank Money Museum, and were delighted to add your most interesting informative journal to our Filipiniana Collection.

We entered a subscription to *Barrilla*, with a book dealer in Manila who acts as our supplier for Philippine books and journals, but we have not received any later issues of your journal. I am writing to you, therefore in hopes that you will send us all issues of *Barrilla* which we have missed and enter our subscription. Our order is enclosed herewith.

Thanking you in advance for your assistance and hoping for your reply in due course, I remain.

Sincerely yours,

(SGD.) CHARLES R. BRYANT
Curator
Southeast Asia Collection

St. Catherine of Sienna Academy
Samal, Bataan
February 2, 1976

The Officer-in-Charge
Central Bank Money Museum
Roxas Blvd., Manila

Dear Sir:

In behalf of the faculty members and the students of this school who joined the Educational Tour last January 23, 1976, I am extending my profound gratitude for the generosity you have manifested in allowing us to benefit out of the Money Museum exhibits galore *gratis et amore*. Rest assured that the thrill and delights we have experienced there will for long be inculcated in our minds and hearts.

More power to you!

Sincerely yours,

(SGD.) Miss CORAZON D. ABELLA
Principal

SAVE IN BANKS

Museum News & Notes

(Editor's Note: Featured in this and the next two pages are commentaries made by students of Humanities in a metropolitan college which has consistently required its students to visit the Money Museum. These were solicited to partly enable the staff of the Money Museum in assessing its gains insofar as its educational objectives are concerned.)

The Money Museum captured my interest since it brought back history and nourished my mind with the ingenuity of man. It is like history reenacted in capsule form - - a museum being the depository and the medium which provided for records that exemplified the achievements and aspirations of a particular group of people or race during their times. We get a glimpse of the beauty of their civilization manifested through their arts and culture, as one may extract from their monetary units.

Not only humanities students should be aware of the humanistic value of civilization but every one should at least have a working knowledge of the past to appreciate the present trend of civilization. Awareness of the historic value of civilization is a positive act of manifesting one's awareness of his past. The history of man is a carousel, full of colorful but sometimes tragic events, which maneuvers our present endeavors. The present as well as the future is part of the chain which connects the past.

Money reflects the humanistic culture of a people of a time and this is best illustrated by what Gilbert Askew said. He said: "Money . . . as an evidence of the illustration of contemporary life at a period of their issue, they are of inestimable value. Cults, notable events, traditions, social and political changes, and artistic achievement are faithfully recorded in their inscriptions and on their designs and types that they bear."

The section of the Museum that caught my fancy is the Children's Corner. Children have always been fun. Frankly, I wish I could turn back the hands of time and be a child again and enjoy all the attention I get. The Children's Corner gave me this kind of feeling which disengages me from the troubles of reality.

— Hedelita U. Patron

After seeing the exhibits at the Money Museum, we come to the conclusion that as far as paper money and coins are concerned, besides being used as a medium for exchange, across their faces march a long parade of kings, queens, dictators, and presidents. Their designs record many of the world's great events - - wars, the rise and fall of nations, struggle for political and religious independence, geographical changes, economic upheavals. And ever since money first came into use, they have been little mirrors reflecting the colorful pageant of mankind.

— Corazon C. Gruenberg

As a student of Humanities, I think it is a must for me to be interested in this Money Museum for it relates the art, culture and civilization of nations. Everybody, even the most ordinary person, must be aware of these, and this is possible through a visit to the Money Museum.

— Mercedita P. Blancaflor

Finally, I can say that all Humanities students must go to the Money Museum because it is really an interesting place where you will find and learn a lot of history about all kinds of money and what money symbolizes, and how it reflects the culture of humanities. Also, how money is being made and used.

— Lolita V. Ramos

Every college student should visit the Money Museum to gain first hand information about the evolution of the different kinds of currency used by different peoples of the world. Unfortunately, this is overlooked by most instructors, but to students of Humanities as a subject, a visit to the Money Museum is a must. This visit to the Money Museum if done with guide questions and awareness of the purpose of the trip, will give more information than reading a whole book about money.

— Milagros G. Gacula

The Money Museum gave me a lot of knowledge about money and money itself, which I have not learned before. I have learned that numismatics not only has been a popular hobby but educational and interesting as well.

. . . . I have found out that money is more than a medium of exchange but beyond that thought. I have learned that money is art in itself and that it depicts also “how the people lived”, “what were their beliefs or religion that influenced their lives”, “why did they portray that image” and “what achievements they have made”. And I learned that numismatics or coin-collecting is not for the rich and powerful only but rather for anyone with a little creativeness and imagination, anyone with the slightest interest in history, art and culture.

— Oliva J. Enriquez

The Money Museum is of great importance not only to the Humanities students but to all the people. At first I considered money as a thing which has to be earned, spent and used to purchase anything that is used in our everyday life and things that will satisfy my wants. But upon seeing the Money Museum something was added into my mind about money, that money is a historical document which often provides clues to the culture, religion and traditions of a society, primitive or civilized. It signifies a great work of art, reflecting the artistic heritage of the people. Money shows the progress of the country, artistic achievements, social and political changes of the people.

Every section in the Museum interested me for all of them reveal something which an ordinary man is not aware of unless he sees that exhibit.

— Paulina T. Astilla

The Central Bank Money Museum is indeed an interesting place to visit. My visit there benefited me a lot in terms of education. It is so educational and informative that you will surely learn much information and I proved it to myself after my visit. In this exhibit you can learn where and when paper money originated, man's earliest form of money (unusual), different paper money of the world (past and present) and those which existed in the Philippines during the long period of Spanish tyranny and four years of Japanese invasion, coins of the Bible, various unusual coins of different eras and places which mostly feature great men and others, the minting of coins through the ages, making of paper money, etc. The Money Museum, therefore, is not merely interesting but also educational and informative.

The students of Humanities should be aware of the numismatic factor for it is a part of showing human life, knowledge and achievement. We, Humanities students, should develop interest in it. With numismatics, we can come to a better understanding of man's nature, his culture, the evolution of his thinking, his aspirations and his ideals through coinage. Therefore, numismatics is one answer in the search for human values.

Numismatics reflects the humanistic culture through money whether coin or paper money. They serve as documents to all the knowledge, crafts, art, literature, beliefs and the customs of a people. The exhibits of the Money Museum afford a view of man's past civilization.

— Epifanio Nadal



Shown above are the exceedingly rare proof notes of the 1903 Philippine Silver Certificates which the Money Museum acquired at a recent auction. This new acquisition is reputedly one of only two sets known extant.

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